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PREFACE

The University of Missouri-Rolla began to plan the International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering in 1981. The conference is co-sponsored and partially funded by the National Science Foundation. It has been organized in cooperation with the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering; Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, University of Roorkee; Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok; Chinese Academy of Building Research; and the Institute of Rock and Soil Mechanics, Academia Sinica, Wuhan.

To begin planning the program, approximately 500 letters were mailed to professional colleagues in the United States, Canada, Australia, India, New Zealand, Mexico, and Europe indicating our intention to host this conference. The proposed themes were listed and comments were solicited. We were encouraged when we received 98 positive responses, with prospects of papers from 28 countries. In addition, extremely useful suggestions were received.

The call for papers was issued in August 1982 and papers were contributed from 38 countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, making this conference a truly international one. The large number of papers received were reviewed by a panel of 35 international experts.

The organizing committee always was ready to assist in matters of organization. In the initial stages of planning, guidance was obtained from Harry B. Seed and subsequently from Frank E. Richart Jr. The University of Missouri-Rolla staff have been very cooperative throughout, especially personnel of the Engineering Continuing Education unit. Special mention also should be made of the valuable advice and guidance I have received from Dr. Norbert O. Schmidt, professor and Dr. Joseph H. Senne, chairman, UMR civil engineering department. In addition, our secretaries worked hard to keep pace with the paper work associated with such a venture. Their work is especially appreciated since everyone knows how difficult it would be to handle such monumental work without the active cooperation of these people!

Cooperation and guidance were received from graduate students and colleagues both on and off the UMR campus. The timely printing of the proceedings has been made possible through the efforts of personnel at UMR Centralized Printing Office and University Printing Services at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Without the expertise and technical assistance of these individuals, the proceedings would not exist in their present form. I am indebted to the University of Roorkee which allowed me the time and a grant of Rs. 5000 (approximately \$500) during initial planning stages of this conference and to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for their cooperation.

We now look forward to a successful conference in St. Louis during the week of May 6, 1984.

JANUARY 3, 1984

Shamsher Prakash, Editor
and Conference Chairman

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